

the ALMAGEST

Louisiana State University in Shreveport

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LSU SHREVEPORT

Thursday
September 29, 2005

by Sarah Smith

Hurricane Rita roared through Louisiana and Texas last weekend, leaving some in the midst of destruction and devastation. An estimated three million people evacuated from areas in and around Rita's projected path, which was no surprise considering the destruction of New Orleans and South Mississippi left by hurricane Katrina nearly four weeks earlier.

The National Weather Service predicted hurricane Rita would come on-shore mid-morning Saturday packed with destructive winds and tidal surges of 5 to 20 feet, targeting the coast from Galveston, Texas to Cameron, La. When Rita made landfall, residents of Galveston breathed a sigh of relief; their city was spared from the worst of the storm. Rita wreaked havoc on marshy cities and towns along the Texas-Louisiana state line. In south Louisiana, Cameron and Calcasieu parishes were hit the hardest, and cities such as Lake Charles and Cameron experienced the most horrible blows of Rita's wrath.

After Rita battered the Gulf Coast in southwestern Louisiana, she swiftly moved through northwest Louisiana and east Texas on Saturday. As Rita moved north, she was downgraded from a hurricane to a weakening tropical storm. Strong wind advisories and flash flood watches remained in effect for the area.

Late Saturday afternoon, tropical storm Rita swept through the Shreveport-Bossier City area with 30 mph winds and gusts up to 50 mph, causing widespread power outages and property damage.

Whitney Hendrix, junior English major, said the storm didn't seem to be as bad as they predicted it to be on the news. Hendrix and her family were prepared for the absolute worst.

"We stocked up on bottled water and toilet paper mostly," said Hendrix.

Rita's Rampage

One of the most powerful storms in recorded history rips through Louisiana



ERIC PULSIFER

Larry Mosley from LSUS Facility Services cleans up debris in front of the HPE parking lot after hurricane Rita hit Shreveport on Saturday. LSUS was shut down over the weekend due to the storm. The campus also helped house AEP Swepco workers from surrounding regions who traveled here to help deal with mass power outages.

"I felt kind of stupid when all we got was a lot of rain with some wind, which was pretty strong at times, but we did lose power for awhile."

Hendrix said that despite the fact that the area wasn't hit by a hurricane, she was glad that she and her family were prepared and were ready for anything that Rita had in store. She said the power did go out at her house in

Shreveport and that several trees were knocked down because of strong winds produced by the storm.

According to local news reports, thousands of trees were down due to high winds, and there were also reports of isolated flooding throughout the area. Rainfall totals ranged from an inch and a half to nine inches in the Ark-La-Tex, and from four to seven inches in

Shreveport-Bossier City. The highest rainfall totals occurred mostly along the state line of Texas and Louisiana. More than 160,000 homes in Northwest Louisiana and East Texas were without power on Saturday night.

Damon Cole, Swepco employee, said when Rita hit the area Saturday, it

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**Evolution vs.
Intelligent Design**
The battle wages on

ENTERTAINMENT • 7



Movie Reviews

See what Derrick and Chris have to say about "Corpse Bride"

the **Almagest**

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"Almagest" is an Arabic word meaning "great" or "majestic." It is also the title of a book written by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy who is pictured on the front page of our paper.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Nikki Neal, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and e-mail address.

Letters Policy

Letters to the Editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. Letters should be submitted to the *Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Please type the letter and include your classification and major. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by the Natchitoches Times.

Corrections

In last issue's story entitled "Williams dispels myths about Constitution," Joshua Scott's question pertained to the monument found in the Supreme Court building displaying the Ten Commandments, not captive enemy combatants at Guantanamo Bay. Also his quote about Williams "avoiding the hardball stuff" was said in reference to the entire speech, not just his question.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I want to take this opportunity to re-introduce Student Government to the students. I feel like many of you don't know who we are or what we do. First of all, every student on this campus is a member of Student Government and our common goal is to make LSUS a better place in and out of the classroom. I would like to invite everyone to attend our weekly senate meetings. We use these meetings to discuss issues on campus and to propose legislation for changes at LSUS ranging from mascot uniforms to fee increases. Currently, our meetings take place on Thursdays during Common Hour on the second floor of the UC (usually the Webster Room). You can also visit our Web site at www.lsus.edu/sga to meet your senate and executive officers.

I would also like to welcome all of the students who were displaced due to hurricane Katrina. This has truly been an unprecedented event, and I hope that you all are making the adjustment well. Having the Red Cross shelter on our campus made the situation real to me, and I would like to thank all of the students, faculty and staff who selflessly volunteered and made donations. You all truly made me proud to say that I go to LSUS.

I also want all of you to know that Student Government is currently working to raise money for student relief. We are working on ideas for a raffle, as well as for a benefit concert on our campus. We would like for all Student Organizations

to participate in student relief efforts by doing whatever they can to raise money to assist our peers. The textbook costs, at last estimate, were \$96,000, and we would like to alleviate as much of this burden as possible. As a community and as a campus this is an achievable goal. If you want to help or make a donation, please visit the Student Relief link on the LSUS Web site. We will be setting up an account strictly for student relief. With the establishment of this account, you know that your money and time are going to help students just like yourself.

On the much lighter side of things, Student Government is taking suggestions for the name of the LSUS Pilots mascot. The mascot image and suit are still in preliminary rounds of being drawn, and we hope to have an official rendering later in the semester. To make a suggestion, you can use our suggestion box outside of the Student Government office which is located upstairs in the University Center (Rm 221) or e-mail us at sga@lsus.edu. The deadline for name submissions is Oct. 7, 2005.

Lacey Spencer
SGA president
senior biology major

Girls & SPORTS



WEATHER



FRIDAY:

Sunny
Hi: 82 Lo: 56

MONDAY:

Isol. T-storms
Hi: 88 Lo: 69

SATURDAY:

Partly Cloudy
Hi: 85 Lo: 66

TUESDAY:

Isol. T-storms
Hi: 88 Lo: 64

TODAY:

T-Showers
Hi: 80 Lo: 53

SUNDAY:

Isol. T-storms
Hi: 87 Lo: 68

WEDNESDAY:

Scattered Showers
Hi: 86 Lo: 63

Bill to require student representative on board

by Greg Williams

The Student Government Association is proposing a bill that could change the Student Conduct Board. The Student Conduct Board is the official disciplinary board, and its main purpose is to hold hearings and impose disciplinary sanctions on students who are found responsible of violating the code of conduct.

Under the current system the Student Conduct Board is comprised of five faculty members—one from each college and the library—and two students.

"Currently the conduct board is allowed to hold hearings without any student representatives because the definition of a quorum is that five must be present," said Jessica Beech, SGA senator and author of the new bill. "If two students do not show up, the hearing can still take place."

The SGA has received complaints from students who are concerned about the lack of student representation.

The bill the SGA is proposing will first require that at least one student be present at each hearing in order for a quorum to be met. Second, they

want to add one more student to the board. Third, they want to make sure the student representatives are held responsible for showing up to the conduct board meetings.

This new bill addresses the

"No student should have to go through a hearing without any student representative sitting across from him or her."

Jessica Beech
SGA senator

problems the SGA has with the Student Conduct Board which are that the students do not show up and do not understand the importance of their positions. This bill also gives the SGA the ability to hold the students responsible because the SGA president will be notified of any absences that a student representative has and because an executive member of the SGA can replace a student representative.

The main goal of this new bill, according to Beech, "is to protect the students from unfair hearings while also protecting the integrity of the Conduct Board. I'm not sure that students in the past have necessarily been treated unfairly, but no student should have to go through a hearing without any student representative sitting across from him or her."

The students have other options if they do not believe they will be treated fairly by the Student Conduct Board according to the student handbook; a student can waive the right to a hearing and request that the charge be processed administratively.

The new bill is not agreed upon by everyone. Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor of student affairs and SGA advisor, said she didn't believe a student who was the subject of a disciplinary hearing would suffer from any disadvantage because of a lack of student representation on the board.

"Students are harder on other students than the faculty are," said Raines. "I tell the SGA Senate to pass any bill they want so I'm not discouraging them from asking for changes."

LSUS shuts down due to Rita

Continued from p. 1

caused mass amounts of power outages, almost 90,000 homes in Northwest Louisiana and 76,000 homes in East Texas.

"I have been working at Swepeco for about three years now," said Cole. "This is the largest, most widespread outage we have experienced in this area since I've been here."

Cole said the Shreveport-Bossier City area had the largest number of homes without power, mostly caused by high winds produced by Rita which snapped utility poles in half with ease and uprooted trees with force then slammed them down onto power lines.

Swepeco, which is the largest electric utility company in the area, reported that outages were down from 102,000 Sunday evening to 34,000 late Monday morning.

Many local businesses and schools were closed on Monday due to widespread power outages and property damage brought on by tropical storm Rita. Swepeco said it would take until at least tonight before power would be restored to all Swepeco customers in the affected area.

LSUS resumed classes

Monday morning after closing the campus over the weekend. LSUS officials decided to close the campus on Friday before Rita hit the local area, due to the overall uncertainty of the storm's impact on Shreveport-Bossier City. All activities that were scheduled for that Saturday and Sunday were cancelled.

Although the campus was closed, it was far from being empty. Over the weekend, a large number of AEP Swepeco employees set up shop in the LSUS Health and Physical Education Building.

LSUS Chancellor Vincent J. Marsala said the Swepeco crew was made up of employees who came to Shreveport from other regions. The crew came to increase Swepeco's overall availability to handle the mass amount of power outages in the area that resulted from tropical storm Rita. Marsala estimated that as many as 100 of Swepeco's out-of-town employees were housed on campus last weekend.

Despite the amount of power outages and flooding in some areas, hurricane Rita showed mercy to the Shreveport-Bossier City area last weekend.

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almagest@lsus.edu

SGA UPDATE

Topics discussed at the Sept. 22 SGA meeting:

- LSUS Bookstore gave \$96,000 worth of books to displaced students
- 2 Disney artists to do renditions of the new mascot
- Proposal to change school colors since current colors do not exist in fabric
- SGA-sponsored trip to LSUS vs. LSU basketball game on November 15

SGA meetings are held Thursdays during Common Hour in the Webster Room in the University Center.

TV shows make their online debuts

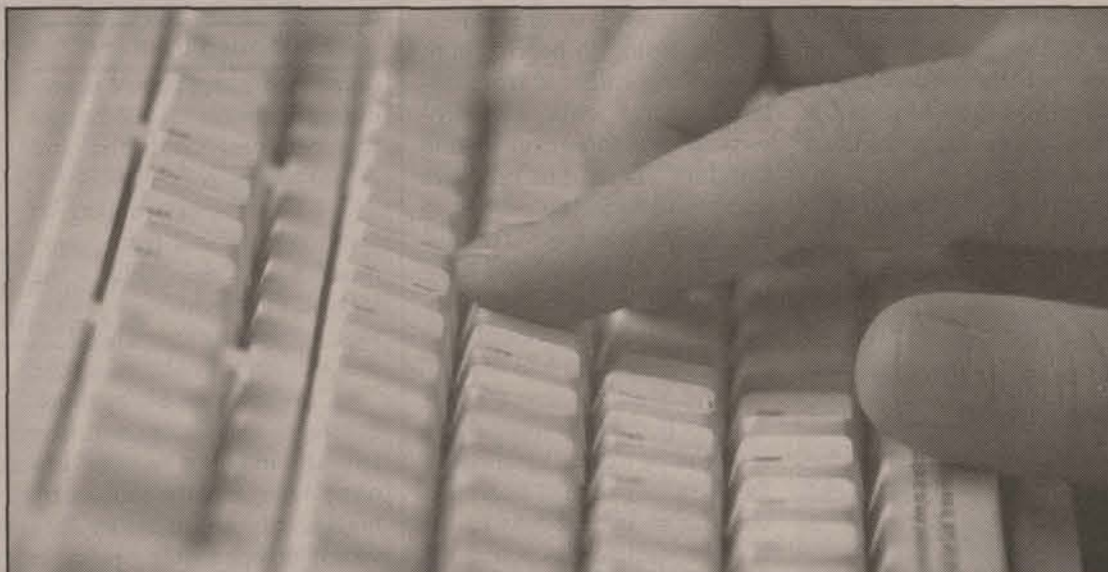
by Chris Gray

Many television shows are now available for viewing over the Web as well as on your television. The most recent show to be broadcast over the net is Chris Rock's sitcom, "Everybody Hates Chris," which can be found on Google.com. The pilot episode will continue running online until the second episode airs tonight on UPN. This stream cast was a test for both parties.

"It offers UPN the ability to make the program accessible to millions of people who use Google," said Peter Chane, senior business product manager for Google Video. The show is available on the site with no commercials.

Online broadcasting of shows is becoming common practice on sites like Yahoo and Cartoon Network.com.

Earlier this month, Cartoon Network began airing its late night program, "Adult Swim," over the Web. Shows



such as "Aqua Teen Hunger Force," "Robot Chicken," and "Sealab 2021" can be seen on Friday nights from 11 p.m. - 6 a.m.

The episodes are refreshed weekly with new episodes added every Friday night. The network decided to bring its popular lineup to the Internet to meet the demand on Friday nights when the network sees

a substantial decrease in viewers when "Adult Swim" isn't aired.

Adult Swim was launched in 2001 and has had its fan base grow steadily ever since. It now consistently rates the highest in its time slot on cable among the young adult demographic. For males 18-24 "Adult Swim" beats out Leno by 36 percent and Letterman

by 87 percent.

Viewers can now view select "Adult Swim" content such as current episodes, fan requests and previews of shows scheduled to debut the following Sunday.

To prevent copying, the shows are available as on-demand streams rather than download, which can be stored and copied.

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SAB hosts Family Night

by Rodrigo Mondragon

This evening Family Night will take place at the University Center. This event is organized by the Student Activities Board and is an activity that staff, faculty and students can bring family members to give them a chance to get to know the place where they work and study.

Large inflatable toys will be among the activities available for families to participate. Prizes will be given as well as snacks like popcorn and cotton candy. Members of the SAB will be in charge of the activities at the event, along with as

other student organizations, clubs and volunteers who choose to participate. The psychology club, for example, is going to be in charge of the face painting.

"We want other clubs, organizations or volunteers to participate in these kind of activities," said Kimberly Thornton, assistant director student activities.

The SAB tries to do this event twice during the school year to bring families together, get to know each other and get to know the campus. Another similar activity is the Easter Fest that takes place during the spring semester. Also, new

events are being organized to keep bringing people out to the campus. A carnival weekend activity is being planned to attract more family members as well as getting people involved in general. These activities also work to promote the participation of students in school activities instead of just coming to class and leaving afterwards.

The event is sponsored by the SAB through the use of student activity fees.

The event is free and open to the public, and it will take place from 6 p.m to 8 p.m today in the University Center mall. The alternate rain site will be the UC Ballroom.

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Basketball team to play LSU, Arkansas

by P.J. Williamson

The defending GCAC conference Champion LSUS men's basketball team took the court last Thursday, practicing with high expectations for the upcoming season. After losing in the quarterfinal round of the NAIA tournament, the team has been in the preparation stage and has their eyes on an NAIA championship.

While picking up a number of key transfers in the off-season was making headlines this summer, Coach Chad McDowell managed to pick up two key games this season against Division I schools, LSU and the University of Arkansas to help build the team's confidence and competitive ability for the duration of the year.

The aftermath of hurricane Katrina left the first half of Xavier University's basketball

season cancelled, thus leaving the option of playing the two universities open.

"The coach at Xavier and I are good friends," said McDowell. "I asked him could we play LSU and Arkansas to fill in the spots, and he said sure."

Playing these two teams will really prepare the team for NAIA play because of the amount of talent and large variety of weapons they possess.

"They are stronger and

faster than all the NAIA teams, and I think we also play on a higher level than most NAIA

best, and I believe we can beat them."

LSU and Arkansas will not be the only Division I schools the team will play this year. They also have contests against Northwestern State University, defending Southland conference champion, and McNeese State University.

"We are really just

taking these as regular games," said Derrick Sowell, team captain and senior forward. "There was or is no special preparation. We're just preparing for the whole season."

teams," said McDowell.

Kyle Blankenship, senior University of Tulsa transfer, said, "We can compete with anybody. We want to be the best, so we have to play the

With the addition of the two teams to the schedule, the game that was to be played against Texas College was dropped. The game would have been the second of only two home games this fall. From Nov. 10-Dec. 14, the men's basketball team will have 12 straight road games before returning to their home court.

"We will be on the road weeks at a time, but school is an important factor," said Sowell. "We will have to do twice the work in order to survive this year."

Last season, the men's basketball team did well at home (11-3) and on the road (12-5), compiling a 27-9 record overall.

"Last year our play on the road was among the top three in the country," said McDowell, "and winning on the road better prepares us for conference play."

"They are stronger and faster than all the NAIA teams, and I think we also play on a higher level than most NAIA teams."

Coach Chad McDowell
LSUS Pilots basketball

Soccer streak continues, weather interferes

by Stevie Silva

The LSUS women's soccer team, the Lady Pilots, has won its last seven games. After their home game against LeTourneau University on Tuesday, Sept. 20, they are 7-2.

This is the first year that LSUS has had a women's soccer team. The women range from freshman to senior levels.

"Coach Jones watched me at my club team tournaments," said Michelle Williamson, one of the two team captains of the Lady Pilots. "He called me one day, and we corresponded over the phone. My dad was in the first graduating class from LSUS, and I wanted to be a legacy."

Williamson said at first she was unsure how the soccer team would perform but now has no doubts. She said the team is made up of a good group of girls that really work hard for the team.

"My expectations of the team weren't very high at first, since it was the first year of the

program and we had such little time to get ready for first games," said Brenna Bussart, the other team captain of the Lady Pilots. "It's been a long time since I've seen a team that worked so hard. The team definitely exceeded my low expectations. They worked hard in the short time that we had to get the team together."

"No one projected the team to be 7-2 in the first year of the program; no one except me," said Jed Jones the head coach of the Lady Pilots.

Doug Robinson, athletics director, said he is happy with the progress made by the team.

"I am real proud of what the coaches and players have done," said Robinson.

The game against Southeastern Louisiana University on Friday, Sept. 23 was scheduled in Hammond, La., but was canceled due to hurricane Rita. The game against Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University at New Orleans, scheduled on Sunday Sept. 25 was also canceled due to the hurricanes.

"The Southeastern game will be made up sometime in the next week and a half," said

Jones.

The next soccer game is a home game against the Univer-

sity of Arkansas in Pine Bluff. The game will be on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 2 p.m.

SPORTS UPDATE

WOMEN'S SOCCER SCORES

9/11/2005 LSUS (8) vs. Texas Southern University (0)

9/16/2005 LSUS (3) vs. Hendrix College (0)

9/23/2005 LSUS (6) vs. LeTourneau University (0)

UPCOMING SOCCER GAMES

*10/4/2005 - 2 p.m. University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff at LSUS

*10/8/2005 - 1 p.m. Loyola University at LSUS

10/14/2005 - 7 p.m. University of Mobile at Mobile, AL

10/16/2005 - 1:00pm LSUS vs. Spring Hill College at Mobile, AL *

10/22/2005 - 1:00pm LSUS vs. Belhaven College at LSUS *

10/23/2005 - 11:00am LSUS vs. Southern Utah University at LSUS

10/28/2005 - TBA LSUS vs. GCAC Tournament at TBA *

*Home games

In other news

Gulf Coast takes second hit

Louisiana suffered another staggering blow after Hurricane Rita hit the southwestern area of the state on Sept. 25. According to authorities, Lake Charles was the hardest hit by the storm, but there was no sign of the crushing loss of life that the Gulf Coast suffered after hurricane Katrina last month. Officials cleaning up after the storm said they will not allow residents to return to the area for at least a week.

Former prisoner to be compensated

A former prisoner who served time for a rape and burglary he didn't commit has become the first to apply for money under a new law aimed at compensating the wrongly convicted. According to reports, the prisoner is in line to receive \$150,000, the maximum cash award, for 17 years he spent at the Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Bossier celebrates Archaeology Week

The Bossier Parish Library Historical Center will have Family Archaeology Night at 7 p.m. on Oct. 3 at the center, 2206 Beckett St., in Bossier City to mark Louisiana Archaeology Week. Jeff Girard, the state regional archaeologist, will speak on "Mounds Plantation and the Early Caddo Indians of Northwest Louisiana," a precursor to an exhibit planned for this spring at the library.

NBA rookie shot

Washington Wizards rookie forward Andray Blatche was shot once in his chest during an attempted carjacking on Sept. 25 near his home in Alexandria, Va., while riding in his car. According to a report released by the NBA, the bullet did not hit any vital organs and he is in good condition. Blatche was the 49th overall pick in this year's NBA draft.

U.S. crime rate low

The nation's crime rate was unchanged last year, holding at the lowest levels since the government began surveying crime victims in 1973, the Justice Department reported on Sept. 25. Since 1993, violent crime as measured by victim surveys has fallen by 57 percent and property crime by 50 percent. That has included a 9 percent drop in violent crime from 2001-2002 to 2003-2004.

Ashton Kutcher gets married

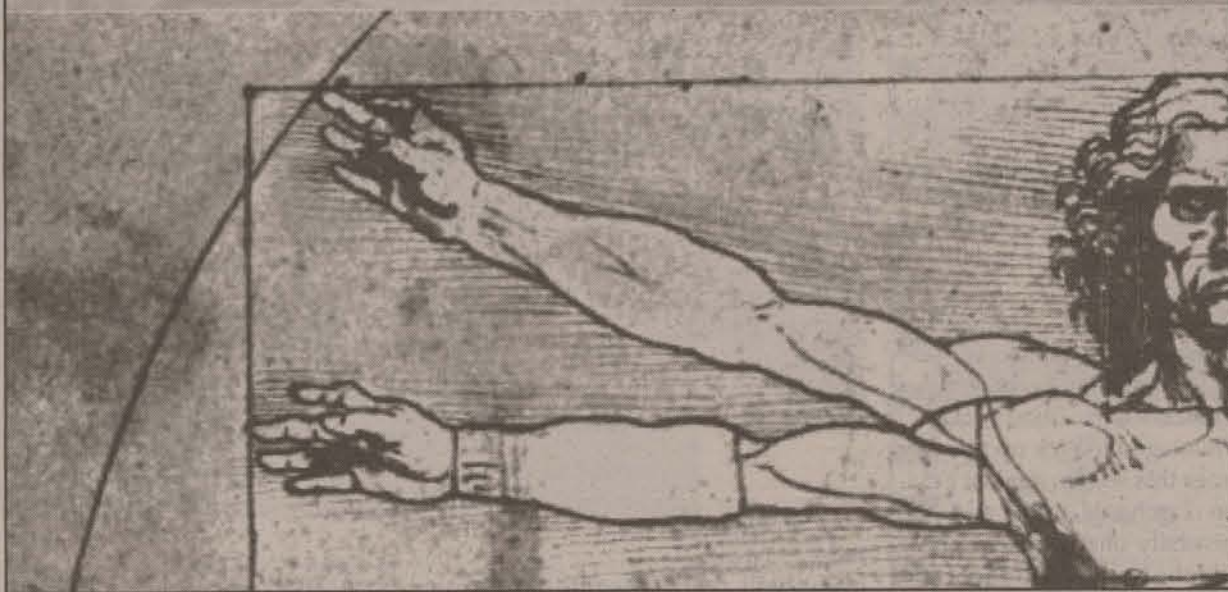
Actors Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher were married Saturday Sept. 24, capping their celebrated two-year-long older woman, younger man relationship, according to a report on People Magazine's Web site. The couple was married in the Los Angeles area.

Texas bus not registered

The charter bus that exploded just south of Dallas on Sept. 23, killing 24 nursing home residents who were being evacuated from Houston for hurricane Rita, was not registered with the state and should not have been on the road, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation reported.

Evolution vs. Intelligent Design

Over 100 years after Darwin the war wages on over what will be taught



by Mickeal Key

The debate over the theory of evolution has not lost any steam in over more than a century. In fact, new ideas and ground-breaking scientific discoveries have indeed fueled this debate to its present position in the social issues and have allowed it to be fought on many different fronts.

The basic foundation of evolution is, according to the scientific research of Charles Darwin, that man has evolved to his present state through natural selection and other random processes. This theory is the basis of biology. With the discovery and study of DNA, Darwin's theory has strengthened.

Originally, the opposing side to evolution was called creationism, which states that God is the creator of man and the theory follows the Bible on how God created the earth and its inhabitants. But over the years the term intelligent design, first coined in 1868, took the place of creationism and no longer was the movement based on one religion but upheld the belief that life is so complex that there has to be a designer.

Not only has this issue been a battle of which theory is right in the scientific community, but for the past 80 years the issue has been which is the right theory to teach in the public school curriculum.

Kansas has now made a proposition stating that students should be taught evolution along

"It is not a debate that should go on in the classroom"

Dr. Steven Lynch
biology professor

with its criticisms, while not prohibiting or requiring the discussion of intelligent design.

In Georgia, Judge Clarence Cooper of the Federal District Court ordered the removal of stickers that had been placed on textbooks which stated that evolution is "a theory and not a fact," and should be, "approached with an open mind, studied carefully, and critically considered." The sticker was in violation of the Constitution because it clearly had religious ties although the language gave a secular effect.

Louisiana even tried to get a Creationism Act passed which would not allow evolution to be taught unless an equal amount of time was spent on creationism. This act was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

Even though these rulings only affect elementary and secondary school students, the issues still come into play on the college level as well.

Dr. Nathan Hutchings, chair and associate professor in the Department of Biology, concerning the evolution vs. intelligent design debate in application to the classroom said, "We try to support material best supported by science." He also said, "Whether or not to teach intelligent design falls into academic freedom, but not at the expense of the information that is necessary to teach the course."

Dr. Steven Lynch, biology professor, shared his feelings about discussing intelligent design in a classroom setting.

"It is not a debate that should go on in the classroom," said Lynch. He also commented that "intelligent design is not based on scientific understanding but based on religious dogma."

A student also had her views on the controversial topic. Freshman Tyrren Tikker said, "Evolution should be taught in full as an accepted theory in biology."

In July 2005, a poll was run by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life and the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. It revealed that 42 percent of the people polled had full creationist views.

On the other side, 48 percent of the people polled felt that over a period of time humans have evolved. Of that 48 percent, 18 percent took the view that evolution was "guided by a supreme being" and 26 percent believed natural selection was behind evolution.



Elbow "Leaders of the Free World"

The first time I heard of Elbow some guy told me they sounded like the missing link between Radiohead's "OK Computer" and "Kid A." Looking back, I don't know what the hell that guy was talking about. Any surface-level similarities the band has in styles or lyrical tone are voided by the sharp differences in vocal work. If Radiohead's Thom Yorke's stunning voice brings to mind alien tones escaping some divine instrument unknown to man, Guy Garvey's voice has all the sonic appeal of a bassoon filled with coleslaw.

In fact, I'd say Garvey's voice is the biggest obstacle for those new to Elbow. It's not that it's that bad, but it just seems like it would fit way too comfortably in a block of radio-friendly soft rock between Seal and Mr. Big.

The album's first track "Station Approach" builds up nicely from a subtle acoustic opening to a pounding, piano-driven conclusion into "Picky Bugger," a track driven nearly entirely by muted violin plucks over a simple drum beat.

Don't get me wrong, Elbow is still a

decent band and "Leaders of the Free World" isn't likely to disappoint fans too much, but for listeners who are anything short of British rock fanatics it's just not worth the time.



Blackalicious "The Craft"

California hip-hop duo Gift of Gab and Chief Xcel return to the scene with the colorful sound they established on 2002's

"Blazing Arrow."

"The Craft" is a refreshing genre jumping exercise in hip-hop that employs rapid lyricism and half-sung raps over a bed of flute flourishes, psychedelic guitar riffs, soulful backup singers, handclaps and spacey chirps.

Gift of Gab's speedy deliveries build up to bizarre choruses creating a daring and unique sound that few are brave enough to attempt.

As Gab says on the album opener "World of Vibrations," "MCs are puppets. Me? I'm Jim Henson."

Say what you will of the bizarre nature of Blackalicious, Gift of Gab gives you your money's worth by putting in twice as much lyrical footwork as most MCs do across their whole career as he speeds through lines over producer Chief Xcel's wide array of musical backdrops. Gab's rapid fire approach to rapping will sit well with fans of Jurassic 5 while Xcel's beats wouldn't seem to out of place for Gorillaz.

"The Craft" features guests including Floetry, George Clinton and Lateef The Truth Speaker. It's also worth noting that the CD is lyrically clean, so if misogynistic rhymes and death threats usually keep you from hip-hop, you don't have an excuse not to give "The Craft" a listen.

Sept. 27 New Releases:: Ryan Adams "Jacksonville City Nights," Calla "Collisions," Deadly Snakes "Porcella," Grandaddy "Excerpts From The Diary Of Todd Zilla," Her Space Holiday "The Past Presents The Future," H.I.M. "Dark Light," Morcheeba "The Antidote," Supergrass "Road To Rouen," Wolf Parade "Apologies To The Queen Mary," Neil Young "Prairie Wind"

Derrick: Yo, Tim Burton is a genius.

Chris: Yes he is. All of his movies have been classics, and this one wasn't any different. I really enjoyed "Corpse Bride."

Derrick: I wouldn't say they were all classics, but this movie ranks right up there with his best works.

Chris: Well if you mention creepy movies, Tim Burton is the first guy that comes to mind. His titles include "Edward Scissor Hands," "Beetlejuice" and "A Nightmare Before Christmas." This was one of his really good ones, but I don't think it was his best compared to his other works.

Derrick: There's no doubt that those were all good movies, but I think this one had more life and feeling than some of those movies. I also get the irony about what I just said because this movie deals with death.

Chris: See, that's where we differ. I thought this movie had a really good plot, and, my god, the voice acting was incredible. Whoever did the little stop-motion stuff for the clay figures was just as much of a genius as Tim Burton himself. It is 1 hour and 18 minutes long, and it feels as if he didn't fit everything into the movie he wanted to and it stopped so abruptly that it left me think-

ing, "Wow, there could have been more story to this."

Derrick: I think the length of the movie was perfect. You have to remember that this is a kid's movie and that no child is going to want to sit still for much longer than that.

Chris: Kids have the attention spans of gold fish, but if it is highly entertaining they could sit still. It seemed to me some things were not explained very well, like the back story to old corpse girl. I mean it is told but not to the depth it could have been. So what did you think of the characters and creatures of the film?

Derrick: Victor's back story wasn't given either, but you're not complaining about that. I thought the characters were phenomenal. Real life actors are overrated. Characters made out of clay give a much better performance, and you don't have to pay them s**t. I also thought the atmosphere of the movie was appropriately macabre. Was shorty living in hell? If so, I can't wait to get there.

Chris: I don't know if that was hell. Maybe it was like a big eternal party where everyone gets their drink on and stuff; if that's the case, sign me up. I thought the clay characters were as good as human actors. I still won't give up on the humans though. The atmos-



"Corpse Bride"

Starring: Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Emily Watson, Tracey Ullman, Christopher Lee

phere reminded me of "A Nightmare Before Christmas" a lot. His live action films like "Beetlejuice" had a lot of creepy back drop stuff in it too. He has a very unique style that's all his own, and the people love him for it.

Derrick: Yeah, you're right about that. I only wish the movie could've been a little funnier though. Dark humor is cool. Blatant humor is better though.

Chris: It was pretty funny, man; it had a lot of morbid humor which I found really funny because death was funny.

Derrick: How in the hell do you make death lighter? When I think about the dead wanting to get married, I don't think, "Ha ha, that's funny." I think,

"Aren't things bad enough?"

Chris: You make death lighter by just being able to laugh and have fun in the face of death. The morbid humor brought that out in this movie. What's wrong with the dead wanting to get married? Dead people need love too.

Derrick: Chris, this movie wasn't even that serious. It was a good movie though so that's all that matters. Good voice acting combined with beautiful character models, a silly plot and a creepy backdrop make this a pleasing film for kiddies and adults alike.

Chris: Right. Good movie—take the kiddies, and be careful where you put your wedding band.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, September 29

Weight Training Class
Weight Room - HPE
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Madden Challenge
UC Art Gallery
10:25 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

That One Guy
UC Port Stage
10:30 a.m.

Family Night
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday, September 30

Rec Sports entries due:
Billiards, basketball, volleyball

Saturday, October 1

Cheerleading Tryouts
UC Caddo/Bossier Room
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Monday, October 3

Total Body Blast Class
Dance Room - HPE
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Last day to change classes from credit to audit

Tuesday, October 4

Weight Training Class
Weight Room
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Biology Club Meeting
10:30 a.m.

Billiards
UC Game Room
10:30 a.m.

International Day
UC Lobby
10:30 a.m.

Ryan Hood
UC Port Stage
10:30 a.m.

SAB Meeting
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Pilates
Mat Room - HPE Building
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5

Total Body Blast Class
Dance Room - HPE Building
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Dodge ball entries due

Thursday, October 6

Weight Training Class
Weight Room - HPE
9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Billiards
UC Game Rooms
10:30 a.m.

New car smell may be hazardous

by Eric Pulsifer

People love it, but that new car smell may be bad for your health.

The new car odor comes from carpet, plastic and glue in cars. When new, these objects give off gases including benzene and formaldehyde, two known carcinogens. Benzene is a component of gasoline and napalm while formaldehyde can be found in forest fire smoke, car exhaust and tobacco smoke.

Though there is no evidence linking the disease to the concentrations found in cars, the level of the compounds in new cars is much higher than levels considered safe for homes and offices.

According to the Associated Press report of a 2001 Aus-

tralian study the smell is created by volatile organic compounds that can cause everything from a headache, sore throat, nausea and possibly cancer. The risk drops after six months when the smell fades.

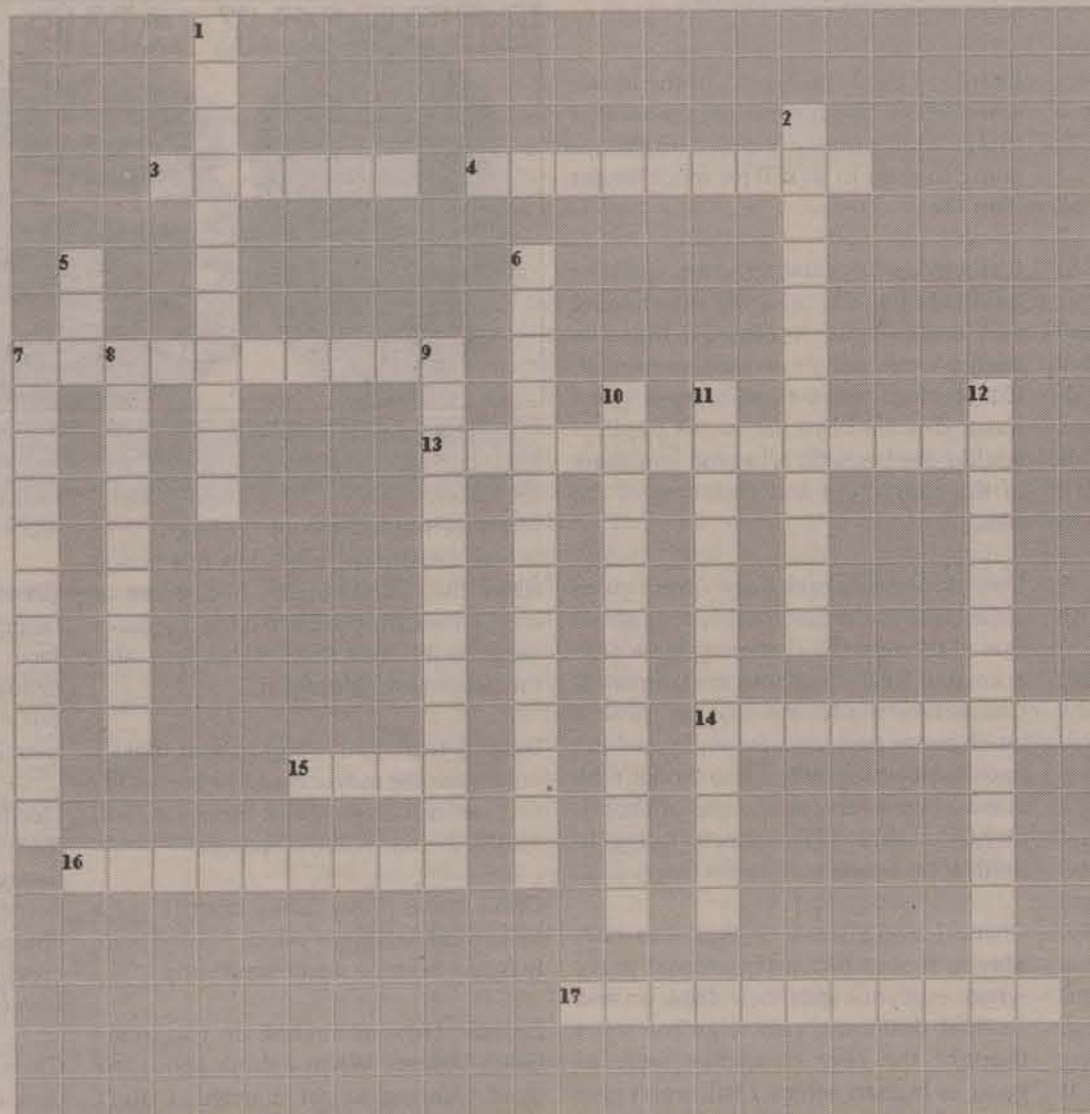
Japanese automakers are promising to reduce those fumes. They vow to cut levels of the components that make up new car smell to match Japanese home air quality guidelines by 2007. Several companies are testing vehicles with low levels of



VOC in Japan first before bringing them stateside. Though many countries have laws limiting the level of VOC,

the United States does not as the EPA sets no guidelines for VOCs in non-industrial settings.

Crossword Puzzle: Shocking moments in pop culture



Down

1. actor who picked up transvestite
2. video game whose fatalities sparked controversy in early '90s
5. actress made headlines in 2000 for gravity-defying dress
6. drugged out R&B singer married too often-incarcerated R&B has been
7. Yankee who confessed to using steroids
8. British actor arrested for soliciting a prostitute
9. phone-throwing Aussie actor
10. "Nipplegate" perpetrator
11. ice skater who hired associates to assault another skater
12. video game that sparked Hot Coffee controversy

Across

3. rapper attended MTV VMA's with breast exposed
4. boxer who bit off chunk of opponent's ear
7. baseball player who criticized NY for its diversity
13. artist who tore up picture of the Pope on TV
14. athlete who went into the stands and attacked fans
15. Irish singer who used F word on TV
16. Ex Vice President who couldn't spell potato
17. socialite who did racey ad for Carl's Jr.

SEPT. 22 ANSWER KEY

